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Executive Engineer reported that the site was unsuitable for an adequate reservoir and also that the construction of an anicut for direct irrigation would not be feasible as there was no perennial supply in the river.

Protection by Government of certain lands within the reaches of flood in the river Kolladam.

* 141 Q.—Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have taken steps to purchase about 40 houses and 30 acres of nanja and punja lands in Ahagara Elathur village, Tanjore district, which are within the reaches of flood in the river Kolladam;

(b) if not, whether they have taken necessary steps to build a bund to protect the people and their lands; and

(c) if not, whether any other remedy is under the contemplation of the Government?

A.—The answer is in the negative.

Mr. A. CHIDAMBARA NADAR: “Sir, am I then to understand that the Government are not willing to protect the people of these villages?”

The hon. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AYYAR: “As will appear from the notification in the Gazette, dated 28th October 1924, proposals are already on foot for acquiring land required for the formation of a new flood bank.”

Major and minor irrigation works in the Ceded districts.

* 142 Q.—Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to ascertain and state—

(a) the number of minor and major irrigation works in each of the Ceded districts—

(1) in charge of the Public Works Department;

(2) in charge of the Revenue Department;

(b) the expenditure incurred on them in 1923–24 for repairs;

(c) the amount allotted for each of the districts for 1924–25 and 1925–26 for their repairs; and

(d) the number of such works under each category in each of the said districts, which are in need of repairs and for which no provision is made and the probable amount required for the purpose?

A.—(a) to (c) A statement showing the particulars asked for as far as available is furnished.^a

(d) The information is not available.

Mr. G. RAMESWARA RAO: “With reference to clause (d), may I ask the hon. the Law Member to collect the information and place it before the Irrigation Committee before the Committee closes its business?”

^a Printed as Appendix XI on page 271 infra.

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(c) whether the Government of Madras agree to this new policy ; and
 (d) if so, whether they consulted the district boards of the presidency concerned before giving their opinion and if not, why not ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answers to starred question No. 15.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Industries.

'Handbook of Industrial resources and facilities.'

146 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state what steps have been taken following his answer to question No. 727 given on 31st March 1925 (Volume XXIII, page 961) on the subject of 'Handbook of Industrial resources and facilities'?

A.—The handbook is not yet ready for publication

Education.

Increments to Deputy Inspectors of Schools.

147 Q.—Rao Bahadur CRUZ FERNANDEZ : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director of Public Instruction, Madras, has recently issued a departmental circular to the effect that the annual increments of pay to such of the deputy inspectors as have not passed a second vernacular should be withheld from the current official year ;

(b) whether it is the practice in the Educational Department that the officers in the cadre of deputy inspectors of schools are not generally transferred to non-language districts and if so, what is the necessity to retain any more the linguistic test which was prescribed in the olden days ;

(c) whether Government are aware of the discontent prevailing among the officers in the cadre of deputy inspectors of schools on account of the issue of the above circular of the Director stopping suddenly their usual annual increments of pay ;

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remove such discontent among the said officers ; and

(e) in view of the existing restrictions in the matter of promotion of the above officers—such as the efficiency bar and selection grade for 25 per cent —what is the necessity to impose an additional restriction, as the one contemplated in the Director's circular, in the intermediate stage and even before the officers reach the top of the ordinary grade ?

A.—(a) Yes.

(b) & (e) Transfers of Deputy Inspectors are ordinarily governed by linguistic considerations ; but as large areas in the Presidency are bi-lingual or multi-lingual it is necessary to retain the Linguistic Test so as to provide a sufficient number of officers able to conduct inspection and other work in the languages of such areas.